

Puget Sound Leadership Council Meeting Summary

November 9 & 10, 2007
Stone Manor, Tukwila

Members Present:

- Bill Ruckelshaus
- Dan O'Neal
- Bill Wilkerson
- Steve Sakuma
- Martha Kongsgaard

Members Excused:

- Billy Frank, Jr.
- Diana Gale

Staff to Council:

- David Dicks, Executive Director
- Jim Cahill, Director of Accountability and Budget
- Jennifer Eberle, Executive Assistant
- Diane Hodgson, Management Assistant to Bill Ruckelshaus
- Martha Neuman, Action Agenda Director
- Tammy Owings, Special Assistant to the Leadership Council
- Cullen Stephenson, Deputy Director
- Terry Wright, Special Assistant for Billy Frank, Jr.

It is intended that this summary be used along with notebook materials provided for the meeting.
A full recording of this meeting is retained by Puget Sound Partnership as the formal record.

Action Items:

- Approval of Supplemental Budget Request
- Approval of development of a 501c3 non-profit
- Approval of Science Panel Membership
- Approval of October 2007 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Summary:

- Action Agenda Development – update and Council guidance
- Salmon Recovery Plan Integration Discussion
- Presentations by state agency partners (Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Ecology, Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC), and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
- Appointment of Science Panel Members
- Discussion on role of Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB)
- Discussion on creation of a Non Profit organization

- General Council Business

Day 1

9:05 a.m. CALL TO ORDER – Bill Ruckelshaus, Chair

To better accommodate Commissioner Sutherland's schedule, Chair Ruckelshaus adjusted the morning agenda to hear the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Aquatics Habitat Conservation Plan presentation first.

AQUATICS HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN PRESENTATION – Doug Sutherland, Commissioner of Public Lands (See notebook tab for details.)

A panel consisting of Public Lands Commissioner Doug Sutherland, Aquatic Steward, Fran McNair, and Aquatic Division Manager, Rich Doenges provided the Leadership Council with an overview briefing of the Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan.

Washington's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages state-owned submerged lands. These aquatic lands provide habitat for many species. DNR is responsible for ensuring environmental protection while also providing for navigation, commerce, use of renewable resources, and public uses.

The two main goals of the Aquatic Lands Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) are to:

- Protect sensitive, threatened, and endangered species that may be vulnerable to DNR's authorized activities, and
- Gain assurances under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) that DNR can continue to authorize activities on state-owned aquatic lands.

Information Presented:

- Puget Sound was the primary transportation mode at statehood
- The Aquatic Lands Enhancement Activities account pays for water access and improvement of the bedlands of the state
- There are 2.4 million acres of state owned aquatic lands across the state (66% within the Puget Sound Partnership Area)
- The HCP is a negotiated agreement between NOAA Fisheries, US Fish and Wildlife, and DNR
- Required elements of the HCP include: impacts to listed species, avoidance, minimization, and compensation for species, alternatives that avoid take, planning for unforeseen circumstances, monitoring, adaptive management, and funding mechanisms
- Staff look at both how to manage the land and the stewardship of the land. Limited resources but manage with great partnerships
- Port districts take on the same role as the state on their lands
- Working with the Legislature to bring more of the state's tidelands back into public ownership

- HCP covered activities include: aquaculture (finfish and shellfish), over water structures (docks, boat ramps, mooring bouys, nearshore buildings, floating homes, marinas, shipyards, and terminals), and log booms and storage
- HCP covered species – 4 associations (herptofauna, birds, fish, and marine mammals) and 22 species. Not all the species are listed but will include now to plan ahead
- Need to develop a coordinated interaction between DNR and the Puget Sound Partnership.
- Need to make sure everything in the HCP is integrated into the Action Agenda. The HCP will not be done by September of next year but will be working with Puget Sound Partnership to see how to address in the report. Will need to include where DNR is in the process and what the objectives are.
- Conservation measures are lease specific and are addressed in the lease permit (leases vary from 10 years to 30 years) there are also segmented times that conditions can change over the life of the lease
- DNR can not implement the HCP without the assistance of the Legislature both in funding and law changes

Chair Ruckelshaus will send a letter to all partners to spell out an approach for integration of the various activities, such as the HCP, happening in Puget Sound. The Action Agenda plan will need to be a living document so as the different activities are completed they can be integrated into the Action Agenda.

AGENDA REVIEW – Bill Ruckelshaus, Chair

After the DNR presentation, Chair Ruckelshaus reviewed the agenda and noted that the Action Agenda will be a part of every meeting agenda. As the Council just heard there are a lot of different actions going on around the Sound that need to be coordinated and included in the Action Agenda.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – David Dicks

Reviewed staff activities over the past 5 weeks:

- Working on the Action Agenda for completion by 2008 (Martha Neuman is leading up this effort).
- Should have roster of consultants identified during the Request for Qualifications and Quotations (RFQQ) process available for contracting work with soon.
- Jim Cahill has been working on an accountability system and building a budget for the Puget Sound Partnership. The budget will be discussed on day two of the meeting.
- Communication – will need a strong outreach program and big campaign for Puget Sound. Have hired a Communication Manager, Paul Bergman.
- Staffing – Cullen Stephenson, the new Deputy Director started on November 1 along with Tammy Owings, Special Assistant to the Leadership Council, Ecosystem Coordination Board, and Science Panel. Paul Bergman will start on November 16 as well as Katy Johansson, Government and Community Relations Director who will be working

with Paul. Martha Neuman is leading Action Agenda development. Director Dicks also recognized two people who have been working for the Puget Sound Partnership Scott Redman who was the interim Deputy Director and Jennifer who will be focusing on assisting him. David explained the new alignment of staff in the office and new organizational alignment. He believes the agency is on the right path and going in the right direction

- He has been out meeting with people around the Sound and is finding that people are really getting excited about the Puget Sound Partnership and restoring the health of Puget Sound by 2020.

COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES/COMMENTS

- Martha Kongsgaard asked when the agency would be at full staffing. Deputy Director, Cullen Stephenson reported that by the end of the year staff will be at about 25 and then hopes to get to full staffing as soon as possible but to do this will need Legislative assistance and additional funding.
- Steve Sakuma talked about the importance in building outreach and the need to be clear about what everyone is doing and how everything interacts. He suggested keeping it simple enough for everyone to understand.

ACTION AGENDA – Martha Neuman, Action Agenda Director, and David St. John (See notebook tab for details.)

The Puget Sound Partnership is mandated to create a 2020 Action Agenda by September 1, 2008. This Action Agenda will be the document that implementers individually and collectively use to identify, prioritize, and motivate effective action and to hold themselves accountable for achieving a healthy Puget Sound by 2020. Martha provided the Leadership Council with an update on work done on the Action Agenda since the October 2007 meeting where the Council agreed on a draft outline for the Action Agenda.

- Four phases of work (I. synthesis existing data and information; II. conduct a gap analysis to highlight what more is needed; III. use gap analysis to identify priorities, actions, and assignments; and IV. roll up information, review Action Agenda, and approve final document.).
- Three key questions (What is status of and threats to the Puget Sound's health? What is a healthy Puget Sound ecosystem? And What actions must we take to move from where we are today to a healthy Puget Sound by 2020?).
- Third phase – what do we do with this first at the ecosystem level and then in each action area.
- Fourth phase – roll up checking in with the Science Panel and revise as needed – conduct public review.

Chair Ruckelshaus reminded everyone of the need for looking at overarching efforts (monitoring, funding, incentives, regulations, etc.) and the need to develop a monitoring system. Currently there is a lot of monitoring going on but all are focused on the specific entity's need. Need to identify gaps and develop a system that can be supported and developed at the same time as the Action Agenda is developed.

Dan O'Neal asked if David anticipated the Leadership Council and staff doing all the outreach or if he plans on going out to other groups and expecting them to do most of the outreach? Chair Ruckelshaus believes there will need to be a consistent message and who gives it doesn't matter so much as the need for the same message to be communicated broadly. The more people involved in the more likely there will be support for the process.

Bill Wilkerson is concerned with the limited funds available to actually do what needs to get done.

Martha Kongsgaard stressed the need for a good interactive Web site and would suggest spending money to make this happen.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris McCabe, Association of Washington Business

- Represents 6,500 small, medium and large businesses in the state
- Participated in Blue Ribbon Partnership working on the bill to create Puget Sound Partnership and in setting up this Council and the ECB
- Supports mission and objective of the Puget Sound Partnership
- Encouraged by process laid out for the Action Agenda
- Don't forget the role that people play in this effort

Jerry Joyce, Seattle Audubon

- HCPs can be very good or they can end up being legislative and legal cover to protect agencies so encouraged the Leadership Council to hold DNR responsible to not use their HCP as a cover
- Encouraged HCP be released to broader level of stakeholders earlier rather than later
- Should hold people accountable on the Action Agenda now and not wait.
- Best practices should be used and part of the Action Agenda

Anne Mosness, Wildfish Network Go Wild Campaign

- Need to implement some agency actions – NOAA aquaculture program
- Would like to present letters that she has collected on looking at impacts of marine feedlots and how this is affecting water quality and everything

Laura Hendricks

- Concerned with portion of shoreline being turned into industrial aquaculture farms
- Asked the Leadership Council to take a stand on aquaculture

Annette Skinner, citizen

- Thinks of Puget Sound as a “commons”
- Has an aquatic farm near her home that raises Atlantic Salmon
- Would like the Leadership Council look at aquaculture and have it be part of the Action Agenda

Naki Stevens, People for Puget Sound, Director of Programs

- Encouraged looking at existing and past work and plans to figure out where we are (State of Salmon, State of Sound, Comprehensive Monitoring Plan, etc.)
- Need to look at quantitative bench-marks to meet
- Need to highlight need to preserve health and prosperity of the Puget Sound
- Leadership Council can be bold in its quantitative benchmarks since they don't have to enforce the effort
- Need to also have a long-term funding strategy

ECOLOGY'S ROLE – Jay Manning, Ecology Director (See notebook tab for details.)

Director Manning provided an overview of Ecology's roles and responsibilities in the Puget Sound:

- Discussed what the best priority for clean up is – is it working on current programs or focusing on the source (if you can prevent the toxics from getting into the system is so much cheaper than cleaning up the system afterwards)
- Ecology is starting to look at product design to prevent the toxics
- Stormwater runoff control would take care of the big uncontrolled issue and this has not happened yet
- Low instream flow on tributary streams is an issue for fish – main stems are still okay but are in decline
- Director Manning presented four questions to Ecology's Program Managers to gather information to be used in the Action Agenda (1) What is your Program's plan to get to a healthy Puget Sound by 2020; 2) Your recommendations to achieve our 2020 Puget Sound Recovery goal; 3) How do we measure our progress or lack thereof. On January 22, 2008, Ecology's Executive Management Team will discuss final recommendations to suggest to the Puget Sound Partnership
- Stormwater issues are highest priority and it will cost a lot of money (not for Ecology but for the infrastructure needed to fix this issue at the local level)
- Washington is ahead of the rest of the nation but we still have a lot of work to take care of the problem

Bill Wilkerson discussed the need to start the process to address stormwater as soon as possible and to develop a strategic plan to use in a pilot project

Chair Ruckelshaus thanked Director Manning for his work and his agency's work.

Martha Kongsgaard asked about the public education aspect. Director Manning believes that is key as the public needs to support the actions that it will take to save Puget Sound.

SALMON RECOVERY PLAN INTEGRATION – Jim Kramer, Shared Strategy Director
(See notebook tab for details.)

Bill Ruckelshaus and David Dicks introduced this agenda item and how this needs to be a smooth transition. Shared strategy will go away next month, after completing their mission. Implementation of the plan will need to be rolled into the new Puget Sound Partnership organization.

The Partnership has committed to having three or four positions to work with the watersheds (salmon liaisons). How to move forward with salmon recovery plan and roll into Action Agenda.

Chair Ruckelshaus stressed the need for continued help from this group to develop the Action Agenda and implement the salmon recovery plan. There won't be enough money to do it all but we still need to work together to meet the greatest needs.

Panel consisting of Bob Lohn, Kevin Ranker, Randy Kinley, Joe Ryan, Darlene Kordonowy, and Rob Massonis presented this agenda item.

- Stressed the need for monitoring and accountability, need to protect instream flows particularly in the tributaries, and deal with stormwater. This has been identified in every watershed as a limiting factor to the water quality. The Shared Strategy did more than just develop a plan – they developed a new way of working together and are handing over a legacy.
- The 10-year implementation plan needs funds and depending on the Leadership Council and the rest of the state agencies to get the funds to implement the work.
- How to get accountability – laying foundation through public education. Agrees with David's comment on need to quit having the difference between salmon and ecosystem health – need to broaden the issue to cover both.
- The plan is an outstanding document but is so big that many regular people won't be reading it. It was developed at a grass-roots level and needs to continue to support the watersheds in the implementation of the plan.
- Randy Kinley, Lummi Nation, noted that his tribe is the largest fishing tribe in the nation and fishing is a way of life for them. Need to look at the costs holistically, both at the habitat cost and economic effects.

Chair Ruckelshaus noted the shifts and accountability and need to continue with open communication. Need to have an open absolutely transparent system so that everyone can see what is being done and what needs to be done so that we can help each other to get the funding to carry this out. Need to spend the money wisely. One assignment the Leadership Council has is

to figure out whose job each thing is and how to get it done. It needs to be done fairly. Need a monitoring system that is open so everyone can see. It would be easier to do if everything was fresh and new, not so easy with a hundred years of history.

When the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) was created they provided funds to the lead entities and would treat each of the lead entities separately but had to distribute the funds equitably. Where the funds would do the most good and equitably doesn't always mean the same thing. The state couldn't figure out how to distribute funds equitably and yet where they would also do the most good. So the SRFB is now allocating at a regional level and the watersheds in the region work together to figure out where to get the biggest benefit for the fish.

David Dicks thanked everyone with the Shared Strategy on the hard work they have done and all the incredible hard work they have put into making this transition work.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Jacques White, The Nature Conservancy, Director and recently was asked to be on the Ecosystem Coordination Board.

- Talked about conservation leases as an important tool.
- Concerned with the public participation portion of the Action Agenda being at the end of the process, he would like to see the ability for the public to participate in the development of the goals and values. Start action area caucuses sooner rather than later. (After talking with Martha Neuman, Jacques was updated on the public input process for the Action Agenda and was satisfied that public participation will be included early in the development.)

Steve Sakuma noted that several of the issues discussed are in the queue and don't want to start broadcasting information before it is ready. Asked if there was anything in particular that he would suggest should start sooner.

Jacques would suggest having caucus meetings soon involving the public at the beginning of this process.

Dan O'Neal understands the need and desire to get input from everyone but would think we would want to provide the public with something to comment on but hears Jacques saying something different.

Jacques believes there has already been a lot of work done on the threats and that this could go out now and let the public help with the development of the action agenda.

Fred Fellerman, Friends of the Earth, NW Consultant

- Concerned with the DNR HCP – there is a lease that allows for discharge pipes being in the Sound and he believes this needs to be addressed.
- Would like to see the Leadership Council provide input on the DNR HCP not just support whatever they do.
- Supports Aquatic Reserve Program and believes it is woefully under-funded.

Paul Sparks, Washington Council Trout Unlimited, Vice President for Conservation

- Discussed HCPs and how the plans are developed by regulators.
- Kennedy Creek is a very productive salmon stream and is all private timberland. This property could have been locked up as a conservation reserve for the same amount of money so need to think about priorities and what should be saved.
- Discussed pattern of growth and 5-acre lots with individual wells and septic.

Cindy Beckett, Chamber Clover Watershed Council, Director of Wetlands wasn't able to wait to provide comments but will be sending her comments in by e-mail which will then be sent on to the Leadership Council.

WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (WSCC) PANEL – Panel of Conservation Commission Members (See notebook tab for details.)

A Panel consisting of Mark Clark, Stu Trefry, Ron Shultz, and Lynn Bahrych (vice chair of WSCC) presented this agenda item.

- WSCC has been an entity since 1939 – created to lead the citizens of the state in wise stewardship, conservation, and protection of soil, water, and related natural resources on private land. It is a voluntary, incentive based, program.
- Provide grant funds for several statewide programs including Water Conservation, CREP, Farmland, and livestock grants.
- New program that WSCC is leading up is the Office of Farmland Preservation. The first meeting of this group will be on December 5.
- Ron Shultz will be working with the Puget Sound Conservation Districts to let them know what the Puget Sound Partnership is doing and about the Action Agenda.
- Each of the 12 Puget Sound Conservation Districts have very different priorities and what works for one won't work for others.

King County Conservation District (Geoff Reed, Brandy Reed, and Bobbi Lindemulder) representatives provided additional information on Conservation District work.

- Conservation Districts work directly work with landowners, are autonomous, non-partisan, and controls its own money.
- Talked about the public outreach and the start up of a Puget Sound Stewards program in King County as one way they are doing outreach – they will be offering this program to other Conservation Districts in Puget Sound to use also.

- A Puget Sound Task Force has been formed by the Conservation Districts that will be meeting soon.

4:30 p.m. ADJOURNED FOR THE DAY

Puget Sound Leadership Council
Meeting Summary

November 9 & 10, 2007
Stone Manor, Tukwila

Day 2

Members Present:

- Bill Ruckelshaus
- Dan O'Neal
- Bill Wilkerson
- Steve Sakuma
- Martha Kongsgaard

Members Excused:

- Billy Frank, Jr.
- Diana Gale

Staff to Council:

- David Dicks, Executive Director
- Sarah Brace, Science Liaison
- Jim Cahill, Director of Accountability and Budget
- Jennifer Eberle, Executive Assistant to the Director
- Diane Hodgson, Management Assistant to Bill Ruckelshaus
- Martha Neuman, Action Agenda Director
- Tammy Owings, Special Assistant to the Leadership Council
- Scott Redman, Project Manager
- Terry Wright, Special Assistant for Billy Frank, Jr.

9:00 a.m. RECONVENE MEETING – Bill Ruckelshaus, Chair

Review agenda for day 2: Adjusted the agenda moving up the Executive Session and Science Panel overview

PUGET SOUND PARTNERSHIP BUDGET – Jim Cahill

Accountability and Budget Director, Jim Cahill provided an overview of the Puget Sound Partnership agency budget.

- \$4.4 million in state funds for biennium

- Work driven by Legislation setting up agency and National Estuary Program agreement with the EPA
- \$2.9 million allotted for staffing and administrative costs
- No funds were allotted for development of the Action Agenda in the agency budget
- With Federal money and other allotments have \$916,000 for development of the Action Agenda
- Estimated cost for funding the Action Agenda development is \$3.6 million
- Need to make sure to not under-fund the implementation portion of the Action Agenda and key to the success is monitoring
- Need close relationship with Monitoring Forum
- Need to define what will be needed to accomplish the goals and then ask for it
- Need to be able to tell the story to the public to show that what we are doing is valuable and getting to results
- Discussed need for report card to show how we are doing and what needs to be done

The Council discussed the Partnership submitting a 2008 supplemental budget request to the Governor for an additional \$2.7 million to complete the Action Agenda and an additional \$550,000 for staff funding to implement the Action Agenda for a total supplemental budget request of \$3.25 million.

Dan O'Neal **MOVED** approval of the \$3.25 million supplemental budget request going forward. Martha Kongsgaard **SECONDED**. Board **APPROVED** the \$3.25 million supplemental budget request.

Bill Wilkerson would like to have staff give a detailed briefing on the money being distributed by other agencies concerning Puget Sound activities at a future meeting.

NON PROFIT DISCUSSION – Martha Kongsgaard

Martha Kongsgaard discussed that the outreach and education portion of the legislation can be done through a non-profit entity and that the Council will need to have dedicated funds to continue the outreach and education efforts. She has talked to different people about what it will take to start a non-profit and use this as a way to provide funds for the effort. The Council discussed not waiting until next September to start working toward the 501c3 non-profit organization but to get started as soon as possible.

Bill Wilkerson **MOVED** approval for starting a 501c3. Dan O'Neal **SECONDED**. Council **APPROVED**.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Naki Stevens, People for Puget Sound, Director of Programs

- Discussed need for early action projects to be started.
- Would like to partner with the Partnership in doing public education and outreach so some early successes can publicized.

The Council agreed with the need to identify projects that are currently underway and celebrate the early successes since the Action Agenda will not be ready until 2008 and even if the Partnership gets projects in early 2009, it will still be at least July of 2009 before these projects would be completed.

ECOSYSTEM COORDINATION BOARD ROLE BRIEFING – David Dicks

Chair Ruckelshaus reported that the members have been appointed and are getting ready to have the first meeting.

David Dicks provided ideas for the Ecosystem Coordinator Board (ECB) role:

- Would think of the ECB as an implementation board
- Help the Leadership Council by reviewing the proposals
- There is strength in the diversity of the group
- Provide outreach to local communities
- Not a board that needs to reach consensus but more of a advisory group for the Council
- Would not produce their own reports
- Sees it as a useful organization

Bill Ruckelshaus reported that staff, before the meeting, will have an outline and briefing paper on what the ECB could do as their role and then have that discussion at the first meeting.

There are many different groups working on the same issues. They are waiting to find out what they can do to assist. Need to put together a paper outlining the legislative mandates and what the Council thinking is on what the role of the ECB is. Need to get this out for comment as soon as possible.

The Council agrees that the role of the ECB is to focus on:

- Local public outreach and education,
- Communication, and
- Advising the Leadership Council through a consensus process.

Staff will get the rough draft out to the ECB and the Council.

Jacques White, The Nature Conservancy and member of the Ecosystem Coordination Board

- Saw need for funding outreach and encourage the Puget Sound Partnership and Leadership Council to have the ECB help with outreach for funding
- Sees one of the roles for the ECB to do some of the public outreach and with public officials on the Board will be a good use of their time

Naki Stevens, People for Puget Sound

- Read in the legislation in Section 8(6) c where it says “When the board identifies conflicts or disputes among ecosystem scale projects or programs, the board may convene the agency managers in an attempt to reconcile the conflicts with the objective of advancing the protection and recovery of Puget Sound.” She has concern with this statement and believes that is the role of the Leadership Council not the ECB.

Ron Shultz, previously with the Puget Sound Partnership, explained why this was in the legislation. It was one of the functions of the Puget Sound Action Team so the Legislature wanted to make sure there was a place for agencies to get together to work out issues. With the new caucus structure this might be the way to handle the issues in the future.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Sparks, Trout Unlimited

- Idea on outreach – noted that there is a structure in place but it has an institutional culture. The new outreach effort needs to be more effective in outreach so to reach those groups that have not been as engaged in the past such as the Puget Sound Anglers

Sara Hempell, citizen

- Need to have enough money to have good independent science
- Need to tap the business community and ports who are concerned with the science budget being thin
- Maybe the business community should create the 501c3 so that they can have more input
- Ducks Unlimited has a great monitoring effort done by members – maybe the Puget Sound Stewards could be data gatherers

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS SCIENCE PANEL MEMBERSHIPS

At 10:30 a.m. the Leadership Council went into an Executive Session to discuss Science Panel membership.

They returned from the Executive Session at 11:15 a.m.

PUGET SOUND NEARSHORE PARTNERSHIP BRIEFING – Panel

Panel consisting of Terry Wright, Debby Hyde, Tim Smith, Colonel McCormick, Curtis Tanner, Bernie Hargrave, Jacques White, and Jeff Koenings provided this presentation. (See notebook memo and handouts for details.)

Tim Smith introduced this agenda item and provided a video on dead fish and other concerns with Puget Sound low oxygen in Hood Canal taken September 2006.

Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership efforts to date:

- Mapped nearshore environment and documented processes
- Is funded 50% federal and 50% local
- Mission is to protect and restore the processes of the Puget Sound nearshore ecosystem in support of the natural resources and beneficial uses of Puget Sound and the Puget Sound Basin
- Nearshore includes the estuarine delta and marine shoreline areas of shallow water from the top of the coastal bank or bluffs to water at depths associated with photic zone (including coastal streams and estuaries)
- Ecosystems work three legged stool of natural processes which creates structure for ecosystem functions supporting biological communities
- Understanding of nearshore ecosystem with both historic and current conditions to predict the future conditions
- Need to decide what future is wanted and by using science products and stakeholder involvement, create the Final Feasibility Report to Congress
- Feasibility Report includes specific actions with project costs
- Have funded about 24 projects through the Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership so far (\$14-\$20 million to date)
- The Program looks at the issue holistically
- Pierce County is doing outreach including evening and Saturday events providing information on septic systems and other issues. Pierce County also has two teachers on staff that provide trainings
- From the perspective of the environmental community, number one concern is coastal habitat loss
- Supports science-based, early actions, regional coalition, education, basin-wide scale, and new funding source provided with the Puget Sound Partnership
- Both the Puget Sound Partnership and PSNERP work together on many items, specifically will be working together on the Action Agenda
- Importance of aligning science and policy – one of the hardest things the Nearshore Partnership has worked on – clear understanding on all the various groups to know their role in the overall process – will need to do this with Puget Sound Partnership groups also
- Every action taken has impacts on other items
- Need to speak with many voices but one message

Bill Ruckelshaus discussed the Action Agenda and how the nearshore process will need to fit in. Many of the different processes going on today don't line up with the timing of the Action

Agenda completion but will need to be included in the Action Agenda with description on what Puget Sound Partnership and PSNERP are jointly working on this issue.

Colonel McCormick agreed with Mr. Ruckelshaus but can't surrender federal authority on permitting and needs to meet his obligations.

The Leadership Council won't ask them to do something is unscientific. Had a presentation by Ecology, who are further along, and Director Manning is already lining up his agency's work to fit into this new process. The Council can't make the federal groups do something but want to work together.

Tim Smith discussed perceived struggle between restoration and protection but criteria will lead you to both protection and restoration projects. So there isn't just one or the other.

Tim then introduced Rich Innes, Washington DC liaison for salmon recovery.

Rich Innes

- It is very important to have a coordinated message not just for congress but also the federal agencies in DC and with Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Need to be able to tell a good story on what is happening in the Northwest.
- Funding has come from a variety of sources including PCSRF, PSNERP, SHIPS, Puget Sound Partnership, community based restoration, Northwest Straits, and National Estuary Programs.
- Senators Lieberman and Warner got bill that mentions the Puget Sound (action funds).
- State is doing great job and has a good story to tell in DC.

Jeff Koenings reported that monitoring on habitat function is needed. Need to start making this happen to see where habitat protection and restoration is happening.

Bill Ruckelshaus agreed monitoring needs to be central part of the Action Agenda. There is a lot of monitoring going on it is just not pulled together in a coordinated way. Need to get a coordinated effort together.

David Dicks reported that Phase 2 of the Puget Sound Partnership's job will be critical to the monitoring needs and will work with monitoring to get that together.

Bill Wilkerson asked who the key contact with the Nearshore Partnership will be for Martha Neuman when she is working on the Action Agenda. Paul Serigino for project selection and Curtis Tanner and Bernie Hargrave as Project Managers.

Chair Ruckelshaus thanked the panel for the presentation and the Leadership Council will be working with this group to help to meet the collective goal of a healthy Puget Sound by 2020.

DECISION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCIENCE PANEL MEMBERSHIP

Bill Ruckelshaus introduced this issue. The Leadership Council was provided 15 names from the Washington Academy of Sciences. Earlier in the day, the Council went into an executive session to discuss the fifteen names for selection of the nine members.

David Dicks noted that a total of 54 names were submitted to the Academy of Science. The Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council received only 15 of these names to select from.

Chair Ruckelshaus noted that the Council will be writing up the expectations for the functions of the Science Panel and have a meeting shortly.

Martha Kongsgaard made a **MOTION** to approve a Science Panel consisting of:

- Joel Baker, UW Tacoma
- Guy Gelfenbaum, USGS
- Robert Johnston, Navy
- Jan Newton, UW
- Timothy Quinn, WDFW
- Frank Shipley, USGS
- John Stark, WSU
- Usha Varnassi, NOAA
- Katharine Wellman, Northwest Economics


Bill Wilkerson **SECONDED** the motion. Board **APPROVED** Science Panel selection.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2007 MEETING SUMMARY

Martha Kongsgaard **MOVED** approval of the October 2007 meeting summary as presented. Steve Sakuma **SECONDED**. Board **APPROVED** the meeting summary as presented.

1:20 p.m. MEETING ADJOURNED

Leadership Council Approval



Bill Ruckelshaus, Chair

12/17/07
Date

Next Meeting: December 17, 2007
Maple Hall
La Conner, Washington
